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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Commissioner
 US Department of Commerce
 United States Patent and Trademark
 Office, PCT
 2011 South Clark Place Room
 CP2/5C24
 Arlington, VA 22202
 ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE
 in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 15 February 2001 (15.02.01)	
International application No. PCT/GB00/02015	Applicant's or agent's file reference PG3672/PCT
International filing date (day/month/year) 25 May 2000 (25.05.00)	Priority date (day/month/year) 29 May 1999 (29.05.99)
Applicant WEST, Michael, Robert	

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

☒ in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:
 20 December 2000 (20.12.00)

☐ in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:

2. The election ☒ was
☐ was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Authorized officer Pascal Piriou
Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF THE RECORDING
OF A CHANGE(PCT Rule 92bis.1 and
Administrative Instructions, Section 422)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

TEUTEN, Andrew, J.
GlaxoSmithKline
Corporate Intellectual Property
Two New Horizons Court
Brentford
Middlesex TW8 9EP
ROYAUME-UNI

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 03 juillet 2001 (03.07.01)	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
Applicant's or agent's file reference PG3672/PCT	
International application No. PCT/GB00/02015	International filing date (day/month/year) 25 mai 2000 (25.05.00)

1. The following indications appeared on record concerning:

☐ the applicant ☐ the inventor ☒ the agent ☐ the common representative

Name and Address

TEUTEN, Andrew, J.
Glaxo Wellcome plc
Glaxo Wellcome House
Berkeley Avenue
Greenford
Middlesex UB6 0NN
United Kingdom

State of Nationality

State of Residence

Telephone No.

020 8966 8000

Facsimile No.

020 8966 8838

Teleprinter No.

2. The International Bureau hereby notifies the applicant that the following change has been recorded concerning:

☐ the person ☐ the name ☒ the address ☐ the nationality ☐ the residence

Name and Address

TEUTEN, Andrew, J.
GlaxoSmithKline
Corporate Intellectual Property
Two New Horizons Court
Brentford
Middlesex TW8 9EP
United Kingdom

State of Nationality

State of Residence

Telephone No.

020 8966 8412

Facsimile No.

020 8966 8838

Teleprinter No.

3. Further observations, if necessary:

4. A copy of this notification has been sent to:

☒ the receiving Office ☐ the designated Offices concerned
☐ the International Searching Authority ☒ the elected Offices concerned
☒ the International Preliminary Examining Authority ☐ other:

The International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

Authorized officer

Anman QIU

Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
7 December 2000 (07.12.2000)

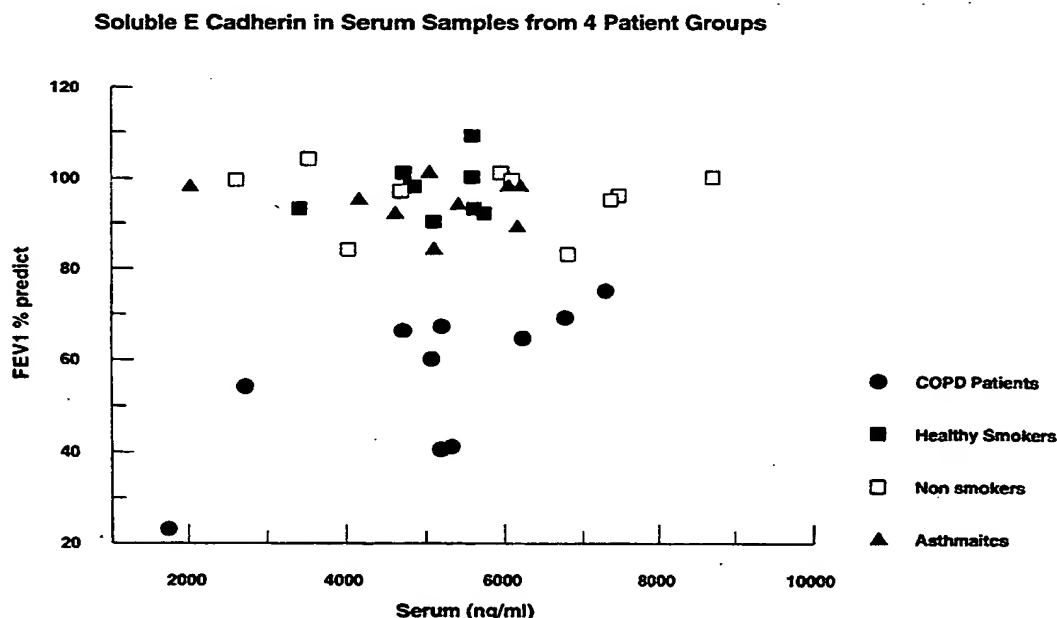
PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 00/73803 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **G01N 33/68** (74) Agent: **TEUTEN, Andrew, J.**; Glaxo Wellcome plc, Glaxo Wellcome House, Berkeley Avenue, Greenford, Middlesex UB6 0NN (GB).
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/GB00/02015
- (22) International Filing Date: 25 May 2000 (25.05.2000) (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
9912534.6 29 May 1999 (29.05.1999) GB
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **GLAXO GROUP LIMITED** [GB/GB]; Glaxo Wellcome House, Berkeley Avenue, Greenford, Middlesex UB6 0NN (GB).
- (72) Inventor; and
- (73) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **WEST, Michael, Robert** [GB/GB]; Glaxo Wellcome plc, Gunnels Wood Road, Stevenage, Herts. SG1 2NY (GB).
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:
— With international search report.

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: **DIAGNOSIS OF CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE**



(57) Abstract: Methods of determining COPD severity in patients which comprises measuring the concentration of soluble E-cadherin in the patient's urine and/or blood serum and determining the extent of severity by reference to correlation graphs, a method of treating patients with COPD, methods for determining the responsiveness of said patients to said treatment and a prognostic product for detecting the concentration of soluble E-cadherin in urine and/or blood serum.

WO 00/73803 A1



— Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments.

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference PG3672/PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/GB 00/ 02015	International filing date (day/month/year) 25/05/2000	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 29/05/1999
Applicant GLAXO GROUP LIMITED et al.		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 5 sheets.



It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.



the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :



contained in the international application in written form.



filed together with the international application in computer readable form.



furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.



furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.



the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.



the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☒ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box II).

4. With regard to the title,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.



the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

DIAGNOSIS OF CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE

5. With regard to the abstract,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.



the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No.



as suggested by the applicant.



because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.



because this figure better characterizes the invention.

1



None of the figures.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/GB 00/02015

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.: 5, 6, 7
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by therapy
2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 15, 16, 17
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box 1.2

Claims Nos.: 15,16,17

Claims 15, 16 and 17 do not meet the requirements of Article 6 PCT in that the matter for which protection is sought is not clearly defined. The claims attempt to define the subject-matter in terms of the result to be achieved. The technical features necessary for achieving this result have not been added. Furthermore, the wording of the claims is such that it is not possible to determine the category of the claims, either process, product or use.

In view of the wording of the claims 15, 16 and 17, which render it difficult, if not impossible, to determine the matter for which protection is sought, the present application fails to comply with the clarity and conciseness requirements of Article 6 PCT (see also Rule 6.1(a) PCT) to such an extent that a meaningful search is impossible for the subject-matter of claims 15, 16 and 17.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB 00/02015

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G01N33/68

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G01N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2-1995), 31 March 1995 (1995-03-31) & JP 06 324046 A (TAKARA SHUZO CO LTD) abstract ---	12-14
X	DATABASE WPI Week 07 Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; AN 1995-046049 XP002150804 & JP 06 324046 A (TAKARA SHUZO CO LTD), 25 November 1994 (1994-11-25) abstract ---	12-14
Y	US 5 895 748 A (JOHNSON ET AL) 20 April 1999 (1999-04-20) column 2, line 44 - line 62; claims --- -/--	1-4,8-14

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

23 October 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

02.11.00

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

GONCALVES M L F C

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB 00/02015

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 597 725 A (SUZUKI) 28 January 1997 (1997-01-28) claims ----	1-4,8-14
Y	WO 99 53926 A (ASTRA AKTIEBOLAG) 28 October 1999 (1999-10-28) claims; figures ---	1-4,8-14
A	LOVERIDGE ET AL: "Alteration in breathing pattern with progression of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease" AMERICAN REVIEW OF RESPIRATORY DISEASE, vol. 134, no. 5, 1986, pages 930-934, XP000917533 see summary and discussion -----	1-4,8-14

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB 00/02015

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
JP 06324046	A	25-11-1994	NONE	
JP 6324046	A	25-11-1994	NONE	
US 5895748	A	20-04-1999	US 5997866 A	07-12-1999
US 5597725	A	28-01-1997	US 5646250 A	08-07-1997
			CA 2111573 A	28-10-1993
			EP 0604603 A	06-07-1994
			JP 7500019 T	05-01-1995
			WO 9321302 A	28-10-1993
			US 5639634 A	17-06-1997
WO 9953926	A	28-10-1999	AU 3062599 A	08-11-1999

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference PG3672/PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/GB00/02015	International filing date (day/month/year) 25/05/2000	Priority date (day/month/year) 29/05/1999
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC G01N33/68		
Applicant GLAXO GROUP LIMITED et al.		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.


2. This REPORT consists of a total of 7 sheets, including this cover sheet.

- ☒ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 2 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☒ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☒ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 20/12/2000	Date of completion of this report 12.07.2001
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized officer GONCALVES M L F C Telephone No. +49 89 2399 8127



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/GB00/02015

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):

Description, pages:

1-9 as originally filed

Claims, No.:

1-15 as received on 21/05/2001 with letter of 21/05/2001

Drawings, sheets:

1/6-6/6 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:
- ☐ the claims, Nos.:

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/GB00/02015

☐ the drawings, sheets:

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

III. Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

1. The questions whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non-obvious), or to be industrially applicable have not been examined in respect of:

☐ the entire international application.

☒ claims Nos. 5,6,7,8 .

because:

☒ the said international application, or the said claims Nos. 5,6,7,8 relate to the following subject matter which does not require an international preliminary examination (*specify*):
see separate sheet

☐ the description, claims or drawings (*indicate particular elements below*) or said claims Nos. are so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (*specify*):

☐ the claims, or said claims Nos. are so inadequately supported by the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed.

☒ no international search report has been established for the said claims Nos. 5,6,7 and 8.

2. A meaningful international preliminary examination cannot be carried out due to the failure of the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing to comply with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions:

☐ the written form has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.

☐ the computer readable form has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N) Yes: Claims 1-4, 9-15

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/GB00/02015

	No:	Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:	Claims	1-4, 9-15
	No:	Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes:	Claims	1-4, 9-15
	No:	Claims	

2. Citations and explanations
see separate sheet

VII. Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:
see separate sheet

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/GB00/02015

Section III

1. The amended claims 5, 6, 7 and 8 still relate to subject-matter in respect of which no international search report has been established and thus need not be subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT).

Section V

1. The following documents are considered to form the most relevant state of the art:

D1: Patent Abstracts of Japan, abstract of JP6324046.]

D2: Database WPI, Abstract for JP6324046

D3: US 5 895 748

D4: US 5 597 725

D5: WO 99/53926

D6: American Review of Respiratory Disease, vol. 134, no. 5, 1986, pages 930-934.

2. The subject-matter of claim 1 is a method for determining the severity of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) in a patient which comprises measuring the concentration of soluble E-cadherin in a sample of the patient's urine and/or blood serum and determining the extent of severity by reference to a correlation graph which correlates Forced Expiratory Volume in the first second of expiration with soluble E-cadherin concentration.

Such a method is not disclosed in the known prior art documents and thus the subject-matter of claim 1 is novel (Article 33 (2) PCT).

3. The method of claim 1 is based in the finding that a correlation exists between the concentration of soluble E-cadherin in blood serum and urine of a patient and the severity of COPD as measured by a reduction in the patients FEV₁.

Such a finding cannot be derived from the known prior art documents, either taken alone or in combination. Thus the method of claim 1 is based on an inventive concept (Article 33(3) PCT).

4. The dependent claims 2 to 4 and 15 add features to the method of claim 1 and thus also relate to novel and inventive subject-matter (Article 33(2) and (3) PCT).

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/GB00/02015

5. The subject-matter of claim 9 is a method for determining the responsiveness of a patient with COPD to therapy which comprises measuring the concentration of soluble E-cadherin in a sample of the patient's blood serum and/or with time and determining the extent of progression of the disease by reference to a correlation graph which correlates Forced Expiratory Volume in the first second of expiration with soluble E-cadherin concentration.

Such a method is not disclosed in the known prior art documents and thus the subject-matter of claim 9 is novel (Article 33 (2) PCT).

6. The method of claim 9 is based in the finding that a correlation exists between the concentration of soluble E-cadherin in blood serum and urine of a patient and the severity of COPD as measured by a reduction in the patients FEV1.

Such a finding cannot be derived from the known prior art documents, either taken alone or in combination. Thus the method of claim 9 is based on an inventive concept (Article 33(3) PCT).

7. The dependent claims 10 to 12 add features to the method of claim 9 and thus also relate to novel and inventive subject-matter (Article 33(2) and (3) PCT).

8. The subject-matter of claim 13 is a product for the prognosis of COPD severity in a patient comprising means to report the concentration of soluble E-cadherin in body fluids and a correlation graph which correlates FEV1 with soluble E-cadherin concentration.

The applications description on page 8, first paragraph states that: "...sE-cadherin concentration may be measured using a commercially available kit from Takara. This kit allows the measurement of sE-cadherin, using standard ELISA technology and the standard curve provided, which allows interpretation of the measurement in terms of a concentration."

Both D1 and D2 also describe means to report the concentration of soluble E-cadherin in body fluids (see abstracts).

The product for the prognosis of COPD severity in a patient of claim 13 is not disclosed in the known prior art documents and cannot be derived therefrom either

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/GB00/02015

taking the documents alone or in combination, thus the subject-matter of claim 13 is novel and involves an inventive step (Article 33(2) and (3) PCT).

9. The dependent claim 14 adds features to the method of claim 13 and thus also relates to novel and inventive subject-matter (Article 33(2) and (3) PCT).

Section VII

1. To meet the requirements of Rule 5.1(1)(ii) PCT, the documents D1 and D2 cited in section V of this communication should have been identified in the description and the relevant background art disclosed therein should have been briefly discussed.